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Agenda item 68

COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

Burma, Ceylon, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Liberia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Thailand: revised joint draft resolution 1/

The General Assembly,

Taking into account the considerable increase in the membership of the United Nations,

Taking also into account that the General Committee should be so constituted as to ensure its representative character on the basis of a balanced geographical distribution among its members,

Believing that for these reasons it is desirable to enlarge the composition of the General Committee,

Noting that the General Committee is composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees,

1. Confirms the practice established with regard to the distribution of Chairmanship of the Main Committees, namely, two from Latin America, two from Asia-Africa, two from Western Europe and other countries, and one from Eastern Europe.

2. Decides to amend as follows rules 31 and 38 of its rules of procedure:

1/ The revised text of the draft resolution incorporates the amendments proposed by Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay, in document A/SPC/L.23 and accepted by its sponsors.

"Rule 31

"The General Assembly shall elect a President and thirteen Vice-Presidents who shall hold office until the close of the session at which they are elected. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected, after the election of the Chairmen of the Seven Main Committees referred to in rule 101, on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee.

"Rule 38

"The General Committee shall comprise the President of the General Assembly, who shall preside, the thirteen Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Seven Main Committees. No two members of the General Committee shall be members of the same delegation, and it shall be so constituted as to ensure its representative character. Chairmen of other committees upon which all Members have the right to be represented and which are established by the General Assembly to meet during the session, shall be entitled to attend meetings of the General Committee and may participate without vote in the discussion."

3. Decides that the thirteen Vice-Presidents shall be elected as provided in the Annex to this resolution.

ANNEX

1. The thirteen Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following pattern:

(a) Four representatives from Asian and African States,

(b) One representative from an Eastern European State,

(c) Two representatives from Latin American States,

(d) Two representatives from Western European and other States,

(e) Five representatives from the Permanent Members of the Security Council.

2. The region from which the President is elected will however reduce by one the number of Vice-Presidencies allocated in (1) above.